

FISCAL NOTE
SB 2585 - HB 2632

April 7, 2004

SUMMARY OF BILL: Revises various provisions of the Tennessee Public Charter Schools Act, as follows:

- Extends the appeals process to denials involving a public school attempting to convert to a charter school. Under present law, a denial by the local board of education of an application to establish a public charter school may be appealed by the sponsor to the State Board of Education, except in cases where an existing public school is attempting to convert to a charter school.
- Authorizes the creation of a charter school for *students* who are failing to make adequate yearly progress, regardless of the status of the school as a whole. Under present law, A charter school may be formed to provide alternatives for students in *schools* failing to make adequate yearly progress.
- Extends this provision to authorize local systems to work in concert with *public or private* higher education teacher training institutions. Under present law, a public charter school may be formed to provide local school systems the option to work in concert with the state's public higher education teacher training institutions.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Other Fiscal Impact - Shifts BEP funds from the LEAs to public charter schools in an amount estimated to exceed \$100,000.

Estimate based on the following:

- The bill opens up eligibility to populations of students not eligible under current law.
- Any increase in the number of potential charter schools or charter school students would result in a shift in local government revenues and expenditures from the LEA to the public charter school.
- Charter schools have an average enrollment of 100 students.
- An amount per student based on revenue would go to the charter school since funds follow the student.
- Estimate assumes that this bill would not require additional BEP funds, but such education BEP funds would be reallocated from traditional public schools, as the funds follow the student, to public charter schools.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director